**Financial assistance for coastal protection work**

4376. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had discountinued the financial assistance to State Governments for the sea well construction works;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal for extending financial assistance for the coastal protection work is pending with Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any request has been made by the State Governments including Kerala seeking financial assistance for anti-sea erosion works; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Government of India had provided Central Loan Assistance totalling Rs.52 crore to Kerala for anti sea erosion works during the period 1970-71 to 1991-92. Also, an amount of Rs. 0.93 crore was provided to Government of Karnataka in the year 1991-92. The Central Loan Assistance was discontinued beyond 1991-92 as per the decision taken in the 43rd meeting of National Development Council held in December, 1991. Further, the Government of India released Rs.3.00 crore as special Central Assistance as one time measure for completing anti sea erosion works in Kerala by June,1996. An additional Central assistance amounting to Rs.1.00 crore was provided to Government of Tamil Nadu during the financial year 2000-2001 and Rs.3.50 crore to Government of West Bengal during 2001-02 for anti sea erosion works.

(c) to (f) At present, the National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP) for protection of critical vulnerable coastal reaches from sea erosion in the maritime States/UTs is under formulation. The proposals received from various States/

UTs are under different stages of finalisation for inclusion in National Coastal Protection Project, which will be finalized on receipt of modified proposals from States/UTs. Also, a proposal for Centrally Sponsored Scheme for protection of critical reaches from sea erosion and anti river erosion works is in the process of formulation.

**Clearance to pending irrigation projects in Maharashtra**

4377. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending irrigation projects of Maharashtra;

(b) the reasons for the projects lying pending; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the clearance of pending irrigation projects of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The details of irrigation projects of Maharashtra received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal and the present status of appraisal are given in the Annexure [*See* Appendix 195, Annexure No. 43]

(b) The main reasons why these projects are lying pending is that the State Government has not promptly responded to various queries relating mainly to irrigation planning, Hydrology, cost, design aspects, economic aspect, concurrence of State Finance Department etc.

(c) Clearance of the projects is linked to the promptness with which the State Government complies with the outstanding observations of the various Central Appraising Agencies.

**Ground water level in U.P.**

4378. SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board in association with the